

## **PART III. NATIONAL REPORTING GUIDELINES FOR CSD-14/15 THEMATIC AREAS**

### **A. ATMOSPHERE/AIR POLLUTION**

Government focal point(s): Ministry of Public Utilities and the Environment

Responding ministry/office(s): Environmental Management Authority

#### **Decision-Making: Strategies, policies, programmes and plans, legislation, policy instruments and the regulatory framework; involvement of Major Groups**

- Assessing ambient air quality and the levels of air pollution.

**A pilot ambient air monitoring station measuring nitrogen oxides, sulphur dioxide, ground-level ozone, carbon monoxide as well as meteorological parameters has been established with a view to establishing additional stations periodically. A PM 2.5 analyser is to be added to the station shortly. The station has been sited outside the main industrial estate. Results would be used to generate air quality reports as well as air quality indices.**

- Control of air pollution (e.g. for stationary, mobile, area and other pollution sources).
  - Analysis of costs and benefits

**A proposal to conduct an integrated environmental strategy aiming at estimating the costs and benefits of greenhouse gas mitigation is being prepared.**

- Institutional changes made.

**Amendments to the existing traffic regulations is being considered to incorporate vehicular emissions testing as per the existing emission standard as part of the vehicle inspection programme. Monitoring and testing would be carried out by private garages, authorized agencies as well as spot-checks by the environmental police division of the Environmental Management Authority.**

- Plan(s) to deal with severe air pollution incidents.

**A rapid response field testing regime is being proposed to evaluate severe air pollution incidents with a view to the results informing further action as necessary.**

- Programmes designed to reduce indoor air pollution.

**None at the moment**

- Policy measures taken to improve the quality of fuels.

**The Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards is currently reviewing standards related to unleaded gasoline and diesel.**

- Specific policy measures designed to reduce the level of lead in gasoline.

**Unleaded gasoline is currently being used in vehicles, but see above.**

- Policies promoting cleaner transportation measures and technology (e.g. vehicular technology, mass transit systems, reduced demand in vehicle-miles-traveled, modal shifts).

**The feasibility of a mass transit system is currently being undertaken. Additionally, the feasibility of using compressed natural gas as an alternative fuel is also be considered.**

- Emission limits on vehicular exhaust.

**See above**

- Role played by air pollution in urban planning, especially related to transportation. **Draft air pollution rules have been developed, which will inform all physical development.**
- Economic and market-based incentives to meet national air quality goals.

**Currently being explored.**

- Nature and impacts of transboundary air pollution (including pollutants emitted within your country as well as those received from nearby countries).

**Not assessed**

- Programmes designed to reduce ozone-depleting substances and promote alternatives under the Montreal Protocol.

**See attached Status Report**

**Capacity-Building, Information, Research and Development**

- Availability of data concerning: a) the impacts of air pollution on human health and ecosystems; and b) the levels *of pollution in different industries*.

**Data is currently being collected through the pilot project (see above) as well as through some studies conducted at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad. Data is also accessed through the environmental impact assessment studies required as part of the environmental permitting system.**

- Capacity to carry out air dispersion modeling.

**Being developed**

- Programmes designed to increase citizens' awareness about the impacts of indoor air pollution.

**None**

- Internet websites related specifically to the issues contained in these Atmosphere/Air Pollution Guidelines, providing homepage addresses (URL).

**EMA website with associated links. ([www.ema.co.tt](http://www.ema.co.tt))**

- R & D programmes in the areas of: atmospheric conditions; air quality management; air pollution control technology; clean fuels technology; environmental economics; environmental impact assessment; and remote sensing.

**Atmospheric conditions: Research being carried out at UWI St. Augustine (dept of chemistry and dept of physics)**

**Air quality management: Proposal to do integrated environment strategy study (EMA)**

**Financing**

- Financing for related programmes from bilateral or multilateral sources.

**GEF funded studies to conduct greenhouse gas inventory; funding being sought to do integrated environmental strategy; proposal being prepared to fund vehicle exhaust emissions testing equipment.**

**Cooperation**

- Efforts to establish or participate in regional, multilateral or bilateral agreements to address transboundary air pollution concerns.

**None**

**If some or all of this information is already available in other reports, or in strategic and policy documents issued by your country, you may prefer just to provide us with a copy.**

**For this purpose, please do one of the following:**

- **provide a hard copy of the material;**
- **attach an electronic copy; or**
- **indicate a Web link to the information.**